

Appl. No. 09/675,529
Amdt. dated July 14, 2004
Reply to Office action of May 3, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants received the Office action dated May 3, 2004, in which the Examiner: (1) allowed claims 13 and 14; and (2) indicated claims 9-11 contained allowable subject matter; and (3) rejected claims 2-8 and 12 as being anticipated by "Plug and Play BIOS Specification." In this Response, Applicants amend claims 2, 4-8 and 10-11 and cancel claim 9. Based on the amendments and arguments contained herein, Applicants believe all claims to be in condition for allowance.

Applicants amend claim 2 to replace "configuration information" with "configuration character data."¹ The Plug and Play BIOS Specification does not refer to the use of configuration character data, or any other type of user-readable configuration information, in the context of the subject matter of claim 2. As the Examiner is no doubt aware, a set-up routine displays user-readable configuration data on the display so that a user can select a device to be configured. The Plug and Play BIOS Specification appears to be irrelevant in this context. At least for this reason, claim 2 and all claims that depend on or from claim 2 are allowable.

The limitations from dependent claim 9, which the Examiner concluded was allowable, have been added to independent claim 8. As a result, claim 9 has been canceled. Accordingly, the Examiner should find claim 8 and all claims that depend on or from claim 8 allowable at least for the same reason that the Examiner concluded claim 9 was allowable.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If any fees or time extensions are inadvertently omitted or if any fees have been overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Hewlett-

¹ Applicants also amend claim 1 to clarify that the configuration character data is stored in the extension configuration table. This amendment has nothing at all to do with the Examiner's rejection and is not made for reasons of patentability. This amendment merely cleans up the recitations of claim 1.

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Packard Company Deposit Account Number 08-2025 and enter any time extension(s) necessary to prevent this case from being abandoned.

Respectfully submitted,



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